BERNALILLO COUNTY



Board of Commissioners

Maggie Hart Stebbins, Chair, Dist. 3
Debbie O'Malley, Vice Chair, Dist. 1
Art De La Cruz, Member, Dist. 2
Lonnie C. Talbert, Member, Dist. 4
Wayne A. Johnson, Member Dist. 5
Tom Zdunek, County Manager

468-7000 / www.bernco.gov

FUTURE EVENTS

Independence Day, Thursday, July 4
County Offices Closed

National Night Out Tuesday, August 6

International Community Day Hyder Park, September 14

Taste of New Mexico National Hispanic Cultural Center October 12 & 13

Commission Meetings
NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR JULY

County Planning Commission

1st Wednesday of month @ 9 a.m.

Meetings are held
in the Vincent E. Griego Chambers
in the basement of the
City/County Government Building
1 Civic Plaza / 5th and Marquette NW





Commissioners Approve Fireworks Restrictions into July

A t its June 11, 2013 meeting, the Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners approved a ban on some fireworks in the unincorporated areas of the county. Bernalillo County is experiencing extreme drought conditions and the potential risk to life, property and the environment prompted the ban. The ban is effective immediately and will remain in force through July 10, 2013. The ban includes the sale and use of missile-type rockets, helicopters, aerial spinners, stick-type rockets and ground audible devices. The sale or use of display fireworks within the unincorporated areas of Bernalillo County is also banned.

The ban restricts the use of fireworks that shoot higher than 10 feet in the air, have a 6-foot or larger coverage area, and fireworks that are louder than a cap gun. The use of ground and hand-held sparkling and smoke device type fireworks are limited to areas that are paved or barren. There should be a readily accessible source of water (a bucket of water or a hose) to extinguish the fireworks.

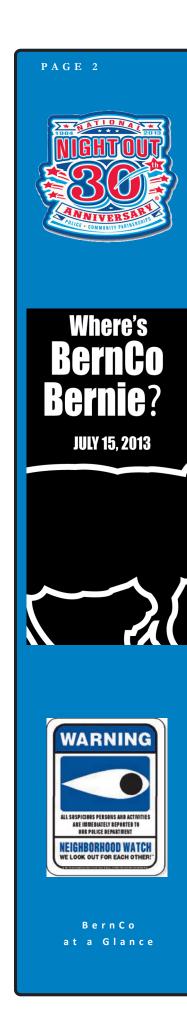
The restrictions ban the use of all fireworks in wildland areas, which include unincorporated areas east of Louisiana Boulevard to the west face of the Sandia Mountains, and from San Antonio north to the Sandia Indian Reservation; all the East Mountain area, north, south and east to the county line and portions of the unincorporated areas in the Rio Grande bosque and wildland areas extending 1,000 feet from the outer edge of the bosque.

If an individual is caught with prohibited fireworks, a citation could be issued and the individual may have to appear in court. Violators could be fined up to \$1,000 and sentenced to less than one year in jail. If it is determined that the use of fireworks was the cause of a fire that damaged property, the responsible individual may be held liable for those damages.

To report someone using illegal fireworks, call 798-7000; or to report a fire, call 9-1-1. For full details, go to **www.bernco.gov.**

Need Assistance or Resources?

Contact Neighborhood Coordination Specialist, Darrell Dady, at 468-7364, or at ddady@bernco.gov





National Night Out set for Tuesday, August 6

The 30th Annual National Night Out, a crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6. Check with your area's neighborhood association or neighborhood watch leader for scheduled events. The National Night Out campaign involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from over 15,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canada and military bases worldwide. In all, over 37 million people participated in National Night Out 2012.

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, promote support and participation in crime prevention programs that strengthen neighborhoods and police/community partnerships. This event has proven to be an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships for safer communities. If you would like the Bernalillo County Sheriff's office, Fire Department, or Animal Care Services to attend your National Night Out event, please contact the Bernalillo County Neighborhood Coordinator at 468-7364.

Neighborhood Watch Program

D ublic safety and crime prevention **I** remain a top priority on neighborhood association agendas year-round. Neighborhood Coordination works closely with the Sheriff's Department to provide a community policing philosophy which works on problem solving through partnerships with individuals, community groups, and businesses to fight crime and improve the quality of life for the residents of Bernalillo County. The Neighborhood Watch Program, based on community policing, is a proven method of addressing crime. Residents are asked to be proactive in reporting crime, supporting their neighbors, and taking preventative measures.

A comprehensive resource guide is available to residents who would like to initiate a Neighborhood Watch Program. The

guide provides valuable information including: personal and child safety, identity theft, safety on the internet, and crime prevention measures. In addition to the guide, policies and procedures have been developed for the administration of this program.

Neighborhood Coordination and the Sheriff's Department work together to make Neighborhood Watch accessible to residents in the unincorporated area of Bernalillo County. The guidelines for initiating a neighborhood watch are available online at www.bernco.gov.

For a starter packet, or if you have questions about the program, please contact Darrell Dady with Neighborhood Coordination at 468-7364.

BernCo Urges Simple Precautions to Prevent West Nile Virus

S ummer is here and so are the mosquitoes—which means common sense precautions are recommended to prevent the spread of West Nile virus.

The peak mosquito season in this region starts now and runs through September, according to Bernalillo County's Office of Health and Social Services.

West Nile virus, carried by infected mosquitoes, can cause disease in people, birds, horses and other animals. Most cases appear during August and September, state officials report.

Bernalillo County residents can report standing or stagnant water, or request mosquito spraying for their neighborhood by calling 311 for the City of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Vector Control Program.

Visit http://www.cabq.gov/environmentalhealth/pest-management/mosquito-control for more information.

The state Department of Health has also recommended the following precautions to prevent the spread of West Nile virus:

- Use insect repellent on exposed skin and clothing when outdoors. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends using insect repellents containing DEET, Picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535 for use on skin, and permethrin for use on clothing. Always follow label directions when using insect repellents.
- When weather permits, wear protective clothing such as loose-fitting, long-sleeved shirts, long pants and socks.
- The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for mosquitoes. Take extra care to use repellent and protective clothing or avoid outdoor activities during these times.
- Eliminate water-holding containers where mosquitoes lay their eggs, such as empty buckets, flower pots and old tires. Regularly change the water in birdbaths, wading pools and pet water bowls. Make sure rain barrels are tightly screened.
- Keep windows and doors closed if not screened. When leaving your home's doors or windows open, make sure they have screens that fit tightly and have no holes.

County Unclaimed/Indigent Cremation Program

The Bernalillo County Purchasing Department administers the Unclaimed/Indigent Cremation Program for deceased persons who have passed away within the geographical boundaries of Bernalillo County. On July 1, 2013, a new webpage was unveiled at http://www.bernco.gov/unclaimed-indigent-cremation-program that will allow citizens to search for persons who may have been in the county's unclaimed/indigent database during the last seven years to find out if they have been interred, or if their cremated remains are still being held by the county.

The state holds each county responsible for the handling of bodies within the county's jurisdiction that have not been claimed for over 30 days from the date of death, or for those families who could not afford to pay for a burial or cremation.

A burial and memorial service will be held for unclaimed decedents that have been in the care of Bernalillo County for the last two years on July 9, 2013 at 11 a.m. at Evangelico Cemetery, 3816 Blake Road SW (west of Coors).

Trade Alliance Opens Registration for Trade Mission to Taiwan

Registration is now open for the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Trade Alliance's mission to Taiwan. Commissioner Maggie Hart Stebbins, District 3, will lead the trade mission from September 1—9 in an effort to generate opportunities for local companies to find customers and partners in Taiwan. The trade mission will be centered around SEMICON Taiwan, a large semiconductor tradeshow covering a variety of subsectors, including 3D IC & Substrates, LEDs, Secondary Equipment, MEMS, and Green Management. Additionally, pre-qualified business development meetings will be arranged in Taipei in partnership with the State of New Mexico's Greater China Trade office based upon the specific requests of participating local companies. The trade mission, however, is not limited to companies interested in SEMICON Taiwan.

The Trade Alliance, formed less than a year ago, has already led thirteen local companies to foreign markets. The alliance has created institutional partnerships, and current foreign company recruitment leads also have been generated as a result of this program. The alliance anticipates more of these successes from Taiwan.

Participating companies will benefit from a structured business agenda; discounted airfare, lodging and ground transportation; courtesy tradeshow registration and customized business matchmaking. To request more information, or to register your company for the 2013 Trade Alliance Mission to Taiwan, please send an email to randy@abctradealliance.com. The deadline to register is Friday, July 19. Space is limited.

Where's BernCo Bernie? JULY 15, 2013

Public Works Update

Totification of Floodplain Rating Change Effective May 1, 2013, Bernalillo County has been rated as a Class 8 community. A benefit of this rating is a discount for flood insurance policy holders. Flood insurance policy holders that are located within a flood zone will receive a 10 percent discount on their insurance premiums, and policy holders that are not within a flood zone will receive a 5 percent discount on their insurance premiums. Discounts will automatically be applied to all new policies and to existing policies at their time of renewal.

Information about this flood insurance discount is available on the county's website and will be distributed via email to all county neighborhood associations. Residents can also contact the **Bernalillo**

County Floodplain Administrator, Don Briggs, at 848-1511 with specific questions.

Copper Thefts

Copper wire thefts are on the rise in Bernalillo County. When vandals steal copper wire it can cost the county thousands of dollars in repairs and impact community safety. The copper wire that is taken is usually from street lighting; then, when the wiring is gone, the street lights are dark because the power source is gone.

Please report any suspicious activity around utility boxes or street light poles by calling 9-1-1 immediately. Only clearly identifiable personnel with the county or a utility company are authorized to be working in the utility boxes or the street lights.